"Matches, Betel nuts, etc.", "Forests and Tramway", "Public Works", "Railway" and "Income-tax." On account of more shipping and less refunds we expect a revenue of Rs. 30·48 lakhs under "Customs" against the revised estimate of Rs. 22·26 lakhs.

The House rose for lunch at 1-30 P.M. and reassembled at 2-30 P.M. with the Hon'ble Diwan President in the Chair

Disbursements

Rao Sahib P. V. Raphael *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts)*: *Sailent features.*—Before going into details, I shall endeavour to explain briefly the most sailent features of our programme for the next year so that the House may know the basic principles on which the Budget has been framed. After all, the Budget is not a lifeless bewildering array of facts and figures "scattered with fearless profusion" to confuse and confound, but it is a living document reflecting the progressive ideals set up by a Government and it stands or falls on the standard of its utility to raise the moral and material needs of the people. Everywhere people are conjuring up visions of a happier world that is to arise out of the chaos and destruction of the war. The surging urge to build up a new world has expressed itself in the form of timely blue prints for planned development for the future prosperity of all denizens of every country. We too in this tiny corner of India are faced by the same problems which are by no means easy of solution, but in the budget before you the Government have taken up the challenge of the times and have tried their best to solve the questions to the extent possible and to prepare ourselves for the tasks of tomorrow. Call it "planning for peace" or "planning for reconstruction" whatever we call it, its aim everywhere is to promote the material welfare of the people and to raise their standard of living. As a writer has aptly put it, the budget before you is really a declaration of War—War against *poverty ill-health* and *illiteracy* and the fight would entail sacrifice; it would mean sweat and toil; but the ultimate reward is a brighter and happier "Cochin" and I am sure that all would consider the sacrifice which may be demanded of us in the course of this sitting as worthy of the cause.

Against proverty.—To feed the hungry we have to ensure an un-ending stream of cheap nutritious food by producing more, by increasing the yield from land, by larger out-put of agricultural produce and of industrial goods.

In the comming year we have budgetted for the continuance of the supply of manure at largely subsidised rates and our successful experience of the current year encourage us in this measure. A large provision is made for "Grow More Vegetables" campaign. Larger areas of arable land are being made available for cultivation. Large irrigation schemes (Rs. 8·50 lakhs) are to be executed with all possible speed and an extra provision of Rs. 6 lakhs has been made to ensure more and better facilities for small irrigation works and rural development in Panchayat areas. The Nelliampathy cultivation scheme is extended. Very large provisions are made with a view to develop and expand the fishing industry in the State.

The steps taken already for healthy cattle breeding and dairy farm are continued with vigour. To give adequate work and shelter to the disabled and vagrant poor three Beggar Homes have been opened. Buildings to properly house them are proposed next year and adequate funds (Rs. 1·90 lakhs) have been provided on their behalf.

Against ill-health.—Living as the majority of us do, half-clad or worse in squalid houses of mud walls and mud floor poorly thatched and under unhealthy conditions, we have more than need be of our share of disease and ill-health. The toll of death even from preventible diseases is alarming in certain years. The budget provides all possible funds to alleviate these conditions.

To fight the scourge of small-pox and to eradicate it completely, a large body of vaccinators is proposed to be got trained to carry on the compaign of compulsory vaccination. The rural midwifery service is strengthened and extended; larger provision is made to fight malaria sapping the life-blood of our people in many parts of the State and a special expert is proposed to be appointed. Larger provision is made for child welfare centres.

The disease of tuberculosis is spreading in the State and there are no adequate facilities in the State to help the patients. The clinic opened at Trichur is only a miniature. A good T.B. Hospital with sanatorium fully equipped and staffed on up-to-date lines is therefore propooed to be opened at Mulakunnathukavu on an extensive area and it is hopped to be an accomploished fact by the close of 1122. Another T. B. clinic is to be opened at Ernakulam or Mattancheri also.

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Larger facilities are provided for other hospitals including the Mental Hospital.

Under "Ayurveda" four new hospitals are provided besides 5 new Vaidyasalas and a Herbarium. Grants to Vishavaidyans are extended to new centres. Larger provision is made for medicines, diets and equipments.

The coastal areas have no good drinking water and this seriously affects the health of the large number of people living in these areas. A scheme has been put up for the supply of Alwaye water by extending the pipeline to Chellanam at a cost Rs. 1·67 lakhs. Supply of good drinking water to Azhikkal and the neighbourhood is proposed to be continued through boats.

Against Illiteracy.—In a planned development there is no room for precedence of one aspect of development over the other. It is one organic whole; Agriculture, Industry, Education, Health—all have to march alongside along a set route, to set a goal, in a set time. In spite of all the restrictions placed on them by other demands, the Government have passed orders on the report of the Code Revision Committee involving heavy additional expenditure and considerable loss of fee income. They have made Primary Education universal and free as education alone can make better agriculturists and more efficient workers. Government propose to assume management of 23 Primary Schools in the ensuing year besides raising some schools by opening upper divisions. Government have also decided to reimburse the management of all fee concessions under certain conditions.

Greater emphasis is laid on the development of the physical side of education by organising a well-trained staff of physical directors and by providing the required playgrounds and gymnasia.

Noon-day feeding of children in primary classes has become a regular feature of our educational activity even though the expected non-official help has not been forthcoming. For next year, a provision of Rs. 5·6 lakhs has been made for the purpose.

A revision of the salary of teachers has been given effect to costing in all an average increase of Rs. 7 to 8 lakhs in order to create an efficient and contented teaching staff.

The introduction of compulsory Provident Fund for aided service is expected to cost the Government a large sum of Rs. 75,000 by way of contribution.

Technical, Commercial and Art Education

This branch of education is sure to assume great importance in the new India when the large scale expansion of industries will create a greatly increased demand for technicians of all grades for skilled craftsmen, intelligent foremen and research workers. A new Technological Institute has therefore been opened in the year to meet this demand and considerable provision has been made in the budget for developing technological and commercial education in the State.

All these features of the Education budget are expected to raise the expenditure on Education to about Rs. 52 lakhs against the actuals of about Rs 29 lakhs in 1120 and Rs. 18 lakhs ten years ago.

Having explained the main ideals set up for framing the budget I shall now briefly touch upon some Departments which require special mention.

Law and order services

The mechanisation of the Police Force at a cost of Rs. 1 lakh, the revision of salary of the High Court Judges, the revival of the additional Anjikaimal District Court which was under suspension, the return of the State Force on garrison duty ex-State are some of the features of these heads of expenditure. A thorough strengthening and revision of pay of the Security Police Force in the Harbour area costing Rs. 1·82 lakhs has been included under "41 Miscellaneous", a part of this expenditure being recoverable from the Port Authorities.

Passing over the Administrative Services like the "General Administration" and "Finance and Accounts" and the Collection Services like "Land Revenue", "Excise", "Customs", "Forests", "Stamps", "Income-tax", etc., I now come to "Controls".

Controls.—A food crisis as grave as that of 1118 is now facing India and we had, necessarily though reluctantly, to reduce our rations. It is hoped that with the next harvest and importation of more food grains the crisis will be successfully tided over. In the matter of Food Supplies we are thus not yet out of the woods. We have therefore provided for the continuance of the full

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